

By the Queen.

A proclamation of the Queenes Maiesties pardon graunted to certaine
of her subiectes vpon the west borders, hauyng offended by Leonard
Dacres abusyng of them, in a rebellion lately stirred by him.



¶ By the Queenes Maiestie being informed, that in a late rebellion attemptyd by Leonard Dacres in Cumberlande, within the west wardenry vpon the frontiers of Scotland, the great number of her subiectes that came to hym, were abused and falsely allured to syde him, partly for defense of his possession which he had gotten of certaine houses wherunto he pretended title, though against the order of the lawes of the Realme, and partly to withstand certaine incursions that he vntruely pretended, shoulde be shortly made into those borders by the outlawes of Scotland, and the Rebelles lately fled out of Englannde : And nowe sence the sayde Leonard Dacres contrary to his false perswasions, hath manifestly declared hym selfe by his traytorous actes, to haue assembled this power only to make a newe rebellion against her Maiestie and the crowne of this Realme : The multitude of her sayd poore subiectes which were by such false and traytorous deuices allured to come to him in force and armes, without knowledge of his traytorous intentes, haue most lamentably acknowledged and confessed their errors, and with clamors and outcryinges haue accursed the sayde Leonard Dacres, as a most wicked and pernicious traytor, making most pitfull intercessions, by meanes of her Maiesties right trusty and welbeloned cosyn the Lord of Hunsdon, gouernour of the towne of Barwiche, and Lord warden of the east marches towarde Scotland, that they might be receaued to her Maiesties mercie, and haue their pardons, with full intent to be hereafter during their liues, more carefull how to be abused, in like maner to assemble and arme themselves vpon provocation of any priuate subiect, hauyng no office nor auctoritie vnder her Maiestie, as in dede the sayde Leonard Dacres had none. Herevpon her Maiestie being specially moued by the information of her sayd cosyn the Lord of Hunsdon, and also of the Lord Scroope her warden vpon the same west borders, aswell of the abuse and errors of her sayd subiectes, as of their repentance (amongst whom, to her Maiesties great comfort, no gentleman of blood and estimation hath ben as yet founde to haue offended) hath ben pleased to extende her mercie in this sort following. That it shalbe lefull for all her sayd subiectes, which in this rebellion were in company with the sayde Leonard Dacres, or any wyse attenyng or assyting hym the xix. and xx. of the last moneth of February, to returne to their habitations and dwellyng places, and immediatly assoone as they may, to geue knowledge to the Lord warden of the sayde west marches, or to the Sheriffie of any of the shires where their habitations were before their offences, or to such inferior officers as they shall appoint for that purpose. And therevpon her Maiestie wylleth and commaundeth, that no maner of officer or other person, shall molest them in their persons, goods, chattelles, or landes, for their assyting and aydyng of the sayde Leonard Dacres in his sayde treason : so as every such person after notice geuen to the sayde Lord warden, Sheriffie, or their ministers, shall by the direction of them, submit themselues to such orders as by them shalbe notified, for recognition of their offences: and so consequently every of them shall haue and enjoy theyr full pardons from her Maiestie, whensoeuer they shall sue for the same in the Chauncery.

Provided alwayes that this her Maiesties pardon shall not extende by any construction to the sayde Leonard Dacres, nor any of his brethren, nor to any that dyd before offend in the late rebellion with the two Earles of Northumberlande & Westmerlande, nor to any Justices of Peace, Constables, Ryues, Bayliffes of Townes, or lande Seriantes : nor to any that at the publication of this proclamation shalbe in pryon detayned for this rebellion : nor to any persons that shall be by the Lord warden of the west borders, thought for their wylfull and contemptuous behaviour in this rebellion, or for lacke of their due repentaunce unworthy of this mercy : so as the names of the sayde persons so to be thought unworthy, be in wrytyng set by to be read & openly scene at the market croise of Carlile, or other market townes in the sayde wardenry, the day of the publication hereof.

And because the unworthynesse of the sayde traytore Leonard Dacres, may in some part the more appeare to suche as be ignoraunt thereof, her Maiestie is content it be understande, that as he hath ben by the goodnesse of her nature abused by the two late Earles of Northumberlande and Westmerlande, so was he euern in the beginning of the sayde Earles rebellion contented, vpon sute made by the sayde Leonarde Dacres (notwithstanding he had heard that he had ben the sommer before secretlye conuersant with the sayde Earles) to admit him at Windsor to her presence: where being priuately with her selfe, he made offeres of his seruice agaynst the sayde Earles, beyng then proclaymed traytors, and most earnestly requested her Maiestie therein to commit trust to hym, as to a most faithfull subiect and seruant, vsing many kind of speaches, not without assuraunces by othes to prouoke her Maiestie not onlye to offer hym her sauour, but to commit to hym charge to repayre into the place where he nowe committed this treason, and there to ioyne with her warden in seruice against the sayde rebelles. According whereunto he departed in all haste, and as hath ben since discouered to her Maiestie, dyd then immediatly in his iourney comming neere the rebels, renewe his former conspiracies by secret comfor-
ting the sayde rebels, with promises of ayde of men and money, vsing for more credite the names of princes Ambassadours: and after that conspired with them by letters and messages, vnder colour of gathering of force for seruice of her Maiestie, to haue traytorously destroyed the lord Scroope in the feilde, & to haue taken the citie and castle of Carlile, & there to haue murdered the bryshop. And not beyng able to compasse the same as he desyred, seeing the two Earles forced to flee the Realme, he sent messages and letters of his owne hand (which are extant to be seene) to certayne in Scotlande, requiring fauour to be shewed to the sayd Earles, and promising (assoone as he coulde finde tyme) to shew him selfe an open freende to them, & so did he manifestly & traitorously perfourme the same, by fortifying the castle of Hawarde with men, munition, and bittaille, by assembling the Queenes Maiesties subiectes with firing of Beacons, and in the ende finding his power increased with a great number of Scottes, did enter into the playne feilde, against the Queenes Maiesties power vnder the conduct of the lord of Hunsdon, which when he woulde haue vanquished (as he certainlye accompted that he myght by reason of his great numbers) he was forced like a traitor to flee, and all his owne power vanquished by the iustice of Almighty God, assyting her Maiesties wardens of her East & Middle marches, being in number farre inferiours, but in the goodnes of the cause farre superiours, and of them through Gods goodnes very few hurt: whereof it is good for all persons to take example, and to beware howe they shall follow the lewd perswasions of any other in causes vnjust against their soueraigne Lady, beyng by Almighty God (as is manifestly seene) ordeyned to be the superior and vanquier of all wicked persons, and their attemptes.

Gyuen at the Queenes Maiesties hono: of Hampton court the fourth day of Marche. 1569.
in the twelvth yere of her Maiesties reigne.

God saue the Queene.

 Imprinted at London in Powles

Churchyard, by Richarde Fugge and John Cawood,
Printers to the Quenes Maiestie.

Cum privilegio Regis Maiestatis.